



**Language:** Nuauulu

**Speakers:** 2,000



**Dates:** 2019-2021

**Total Project Cost:** \$91,978

**Project Goal:** Seven New Testament books

# NUAULU (noo-AH-loo)

## ASIA — INDONESIA

### THE PEOPLE

Nuauulu is one of the most vigorously used local languages in the Maluku province of Indonesia. Most Nuauulu people live in eight or so communities near the coast, an area known for its tropical rainforests.

Many people farm, growing crops such as bananas and cassava to sustain their families. The Nuauulu also hunt deer, pigs and other game in the rainforests. Those who live by the sea often fish for extra food.

Traditional religion has a strong influence. Most Nuauulu resist other religions, holding tightly to the rituals and beliefs handed down to them. Because people sometimes blame sorcery when they experience hardship, distrust is common.

In recent years, God's work among the Nuauulu people has become evident, as a small number now follow Jesus.

The Nuauulu need Scripture in their language so they can fully understand the message of Christ — and share that good news with others.

### THE PLAN

We're partnering with a local team to translate God's Word into Nuauulu!

During this three-year project, staff will complete the translation of seven New Testament books — Luke, John, 1 Corinthians, Philemon and 1-3 John. The books will be published on a Scripture app as they are ready. At the end of project, the Gospels of Luke and John will also be printed.

The Nuauulu live in a culture that prefers oral communication. In light of this, the translation team aims to communicate God's Word in ways that will be especially meaningful to Nuauulu speakers.

Hymns in Nuauulu will be produced by the team, as well as other Scripture-based media.

For example, they plan to translate a video in which the Gospel of John is narrated word for word as actors portray the events. Staff will also work on the Nuauulu script for "JESUS," a film based on the Gospel of Luke.

### THE IMPACT

As two Nuauulu women prepared to lead a home meeting for their church, they wished they had some Christian resources in their language.

The women had access to Scripture-based materials in Indonesian — the language spoken widely in the region. But they both felt much more comfortable reading Nuauulu.

They also believed the meetings would have more impact if the study materials were in a language participants could clearly understand.

Although the women were ready to use the Indonesian resources, they asked the Nuauulu translation team for help. To their delight, the team members created a Christmas devotional book for them!

The women were filled with joy when they saw that the book contained daily devotionals for the month of December in both their own language and the local trade language.

**Your prayers and gifts** will help the Nuauulu people gain access to God's Word in a language that speaks to their hearts!

Updated 8/2019